



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 3 July 2008

Current Nationwide
Threat Level is



[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)
<http://www.dhs.gov/>

- Over the past four decades numerous studies have shown that pesticides can move downward from the land surface through the unsaturated zone to reach the water table at detectable concentrations. (See item [22](#))
- IDG News Service reports writers of Coreflood Trojan horse program have managed to infect hundreds of thousands of computers – including more than 14,000 within one unnamed global hotel chain. (See item [32](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Fast Jump

Production Industries: [Energy; Chemical; Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste; Defense Industrial Base; Dams](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance; Transportation; Postal and Shipping; Information Technology; Communications; Commercial Facilities](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture and Food; Water; Public Health and Healthcare](#)

Federal and State: [Government Facilities; Emergency Services; National Monuments and Icons](#)

Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED,
Cyber: ELEVATED

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *July 1, Bloomberg* – (International) **Petroleos de Venezuela denies strike is disrupting oil output.** Petroleos de Venezuela SA (PDVSA) said operations in the Orinoco Belt were normal, denying claims by labor leaders that a strike had shuttered four pumping and upgrading projects nationalized last year. About 4,000 workers are on strike, the executive secretary of the Fedepetrol union said Wednesday. The projects affected include joint ventures between PDVSA and Chevron Corp., Total SA, and StatoilHydro ASA, he said. PDVSA said the Orinoco projects were operating normally. The only labor action was a road blockade by 60 workers from a contractor, a company board member said. The Orinoco Belt produces more than 600,000 barrels a day of extra-heavy crude, which is upgraded into lighter crude for export. That contributes to the

million barrels a day of oil that Venezuela exports to the U.S. The strike began at 3 a.m. Tuesday and negotiations are under way with the PDVSA division that handles joint ventures, a director of Fedepetrol said. The conflict is over the company's failure to comply with the terms of the projects' nationalization, he said. Chevron did not immediately return calls to its local office or headquarters.

Source:

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601072&sid=aSHLySGLe3Is&refer=energy>

2. *July 1, Albany Herald* – (Florida) **Leesburg man killed working at power plant.** A Leesburg man died Friday in an accident while working at a power plant construction site in West Palm Beach County, Florida. He died Friday after a pipe fell on him, a Palm Beach County Fire and Rescue spokesman confirmed Monday. The man was working on the construction of the West County Energy Center for Florida Power & Light in West Palm Beach County, an FPL spokeswoman said. A statement from the company said, "An investigation is under way to determine the cause of the accident."
Source: <http://www.albanyherald.com/stories/20080701n6.htm>
3. *July 1, Macomb Daily* – (Michigan) **Power outage complaints aired.** The Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) sought input from customers of DTE and Consumers Energy about recent power outages. "Reports of telecommunications breakdowns and prolonged power outages raise serious concerns that must be fully investigated," said the MPSC chairman. One of two hearings was held Monday to allow MPSC officials to hear from some of the 720,000 residents affected when a series of thunderstorms roared through Michigan's Lower Peninsula from June 6 to June 15, downing power lines and wreaking havoc with electrical service. The residents' comments will be part of the MPSC's investigation as it tries to determine what happened to power distributions systems and what, if any, changes need to be made. The investigation, which will include written responses from the power companies, is expected to take about 60 days. DTE Energy has initiated its own internal review of its performance in the aftermath of the storms that resulted in 5,000 downed wires and the loss of power for 400,000 DTE Energy customers, a spokeswoman said.
Source: http://www.macombdaily.com/stories/070108/loc_local01.shtml
4. *June 30, WJRT 12 Flint* – (Michigan) **Saginaw city worker fired, accused of stealing copper.** A Saginaw city worker has been fired after his arrest involving a crime that has become a widespread problem: copper theft. Police say they believe the crime happened during the cleanup of a huge storm in Saginaw in early June. The big question investigators want answered now is, are more city workers involved? The theft involves Consumers Energy material as crews were spread out over the city, trying to restore power after the June 6 storm. Following the storm, a Consumers Energy worker saw a Saginaw city traffic and engineering employee take replacement copper wire and put in into his truck. ABC12 News has learned that the city worker faces two criminal charges, including malicious destruction of utility property and receiving and concealing stolen property. He had worked for the city for more than 30 years, but now has been fired. ABC12 News has learned the probe is looking into whether more city employees are

involved in the theft. A Saginaw police sergeant declined to discuss the case because it is still under investigation.

Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/wjrt/story?section=news/local&id=6237094>

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Chemical Industry Sector

Nothing to report

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

5. *July 2, Arizona Republic* – (Arizona) **Nuclear plant fixing safety issues.** The Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station is making “reasonable progress” addressing operational problems, and if that continues, regulators said they could consider upgrading its “Category 4” operating status by the end of 2009. The plant has been in Category 4, one level above shutdown, since February 2007 for operational problems that date to 2003. Those issues ranged from faulty pipes to problems with backup generators to how employees acted to correct the problems. Employees from the plant’s operator, Arizona Public Service Co. (APS), presented their recovery initiatives to U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission officials on Monday. Many of the initiatives taking place at the plant deal with problem solving and how employees review issues that come up during operations to prevent them from repeating, APS officials reported.

Source: <http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/business/articles/0702biz-paloverde0702.html>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

6. *July 2, Associated Press* – (National) **Center for medical intelligence expanding.** A military intelligence unit that had tracked medical threats to troops worldwide is expanding its mission to include civilians at home. The National Center for Medical Intelligence at Fort Detrick had previously been known as the Armed Forces Medical Intelligence Center and focused on protecting military personnel. The center will now be the “premier producer and coordinator of all-source medical intelligence,” the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) announced. The director of the agency that provides intelligence to senior policy-makers and military commanders, called the center the “critical link” between force protection efforts of the Department of Defense and homeland health protection. The center will now also look at “what particular diseases and other health threats and issues might be imported or might cause illness or injury to U.S. citizen and forces here in the homeland.” The center’s role has expanded since it was established and it now works with the intelligence community, the Department of Homeland Security, the White House, the State Department, coalition and foreign partners, and other domestic non-defense agencies. The DIA said such partnerships

allow the center to focus on a broader range of foreign medical threats including diseases such as pandemic flu and avian flu.

Source:

<http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5iERggq00LmTpFxAlzFmlKpoLGeQD91LORK80>

7. *June 30, United Press International* – (National) **Military looking for signs of attack.** The U.S. military is looking for a contractor to patrol cyberspace, watching for warning signs of forthcoming terrorist attacks or other hostile activity on the Web. “If someone wants to blow us up, we want to know about it,” the deputy intelligence chief of the U.S. Army’s Fifth Signal Command in Mannheim, Germany, told United Press International. He would not comment on the kinds of Internet sites that the contractor would be directed to look at but acknowledged that it was “not far off” to assume that violent Islamic extremists would be at the top of the list. Officials were keen to stress that the contract covered only information that could be found by anyone with access to the Web. Experts say Islamic extremists such as al Qaeda use the Web for propaganda and fund raising purposes, although the extent to which it is employed in operational planning is less clear.

Source: <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2008/jun/30/military-looking-for-signs-of-attack/>

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Banking and Finance Sector

8. *July 1, Associated Press* – (National) **Citibank ATM breach reveals PIN security problems.** Hackers broke into Citibank’s network of ATMs inside 7-Eleven stores and stole customers’ PIN codes, according to recent court filings that revealed a disturbing security hole in the most sensitive part of a banking record. The scam netted the alleged identity thieves millions of dollars. It also indicates criminals were able to access personal identification numbers (PINs) by attacking the back-end computers responsible for approving the cash withdrawals. The case against three people in U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York highlights a significant problem. Hackers are targeting the ATM system’s infrastructure, which is increasingly built on Microsoft Corp.’s Windows operating system and allows machines to be remotely diagnosed and repaired over the Internet. Despite industry standards that call for protecting PINs with strong encryption some ATM operators apparently are not properly doing that. The PINs seem to be leaking while in transit between the ATMs and the computers that process the transactions. It is unclear how many Citibank customers were affected by the breach, which extended at least from October 2007 to March 2008 and was first reported by Wired.com. The bank has nearly 5,700 Citibank-branded ATMs inside 7-Eleven Inc. stores throughout the U.S., but it does not own or operate any of them.

Source:

<http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5hcOMj8ezlUvmXomCZBsTABTvPOCAD91L9DPOO>

9. *July 1, KBMT 12 Beaumont* – (Texas) **BBB issues alert for phishing attack on area banks.** The Better Business Bureau (BBB) in Southeast Texas warns all businesses and

consumers in the area of a spoofing scam using area banks to entice recipients to give personal information. Orange Savings Bank was targeted last month and the BBB has been flooded by calls today regarding Franklin Bank. Consumers are receiving automated phone calls, along with e-mails and even text messages, some late at night, asking for personal information.

Source: <http://www.kbmt12.com/news/local/22776314.html>

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Transportation Sector

10. *July 2, Associated Press* – (Indiana) **Downed powerlines close I-74 for nearly 9 hours.** About 20 miles of Interstate 74 was closed in both directions for nearly 9 hours overnight due to downed power lines. All lanes were reopened shortly before 7 a.m. Wednesday after crews repaired the lines. The interstate was closed between State Road 9 in Shelbyville and I-465 in Indianapolis after the lines fell across the highway about 10 p.m. Tuesday. Traffic was rerouted around the area. Shelby County Sheriff's Department communications officer said it is not clear what caused the lines to fall. He said a truck may have struck the lines that were already sagging across the interstate.
Source: http://www.wlfi.com/Global/story.asp?S=8608225&nav=menu591_3
11. *July 2, WCNC 36 Charlotte* – (South Carolina) **Couple admits to sending explosives, threatening.** A couple has been convicted of sending explosive devices throughout the Carolinas and threatening to blow up Charlotte-Douglas International Airport. They pleaded guilty in federal prison and are awaiting their sentence. They are charged with aggravated identity theft, the manufacturing of an explosive device, as well as two separate conspiracies related to mailing the devices. Federal authorities say they were the masterminds behind the plot, which spanned over two years. They sent explosive devices to banks and former coworkers, as well as threatening letters to the FBI and Charlotte Douglas International Airport. One of the threatening letters stated a bomb would go off on at the airport at 9:11 a.m. in March 2007, according to the U.S. Attorney's office.
Source: <http://www.wcnc.com/news/local/stories/wcnc-070108-mw-couplebombs.1256f6f5.html>
12. *July 2, Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* – (Pennsylvania) **PennDOT says eight area spans faulty.** State inspectors have discovered problems on eight bridges similar to those that caused the Birmingham Bridge to partly fail, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) said Tuesday. The problems were found while checking 121 bridges in the Pittsburgh region, said PennDOT's District 11 executive. The eight bridges, which include spans on the Parkway West near Carnegie and Route 28 at Etna, have been bolstered and are safe to cross, he said. The state Department of Transportation acknowledged a week ago it had found more bridge problems but did not disclose details until yesterday. PennDOT detailed the information as it released the results of a forensic study of the Birmingham Bridge. The Monongahela River span failed in one area Feb. 8, causing part of its southbound deck to drop eight inches. So far, 63 bridges have been checked and another 57 inspections remain to be completed in

Allegheny, Beaver, and Lawrence counties. There are 241 bridges in the Pittsburgh region that share a design similar to the Birmingham Bridge. All will be checked. Of those, 120 – aside from the Birmingham span – are being checked first as previous inspection records show some sign of a potential problem

Source: http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/news/breaking/s_575555.html

13. *July 2, Seattle Times* – (National) **Boeing 787 supplier halts work for 24 hours after FAA audit.** Global Aeronautica, the South Carolina plant that assembles the mid-fuselage of Boeing's 787 Dreamliner halted production for 24 hours beginning Monday night after a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) audit found lax manufacturing procedures that could result in damage to the aircraft sections. The plant is a 50-50 joint venture between Boeing and its Italian 787 partner, Alenia Aeronautica, which assembles the center fuselage from pieces made in Italy and Japan. The shutdown was ordered by plant management, which required all workers on three shifts to attend eight-hour training sessions on proper work procedures and policies. The chief focus of the training was proper procedures to avoid foreign object debris, or FOD, which is the standard term in the aircraft industry for material inadvertently left on a partially built airplane that could later damage the structure either by contaminating it or by rattling around loose. Something as small as a stray bolt could potentially knock out a crucial wire or hydraulic line. To avoid such dangers, airplane mechanics meticulously follow careful preset procedures.

Source:

http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/business/technology/2008028852_global020.html

14. *July 2, Stamford Advocate* – (National) **FAA slammed on new flight plans.** During a Tuesday night hearing regarding a new the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) plan to reroute air traffic over Fairfield County, Connecticut, one of the state's U.S. Senators threatened to cut the FAA's budget if the agency does not delay the plan. The new routes would save 200,000 hours of delays per year at John F. Kennedy and LaGuardia airports in New York, Newark Liberty Airport in New Jersey, and Philadelphia airports by 2011, according to the FAA. One controversial aspect of the plan would shift arrivals for LaGuardia eastward over Fairfield County from the current track over Westchester County, N.Y. The senator accused the FAA of ignoring two letters he sent it more than a year ago expressing concerns over the plan and requesting information on the number of flights rerouted over Connecticut, their frequency, altitude, and noise levels. A 13-town alliance that includes Norwalk, Stamford, and Greenwich sued the FAA in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second District of New York in early November, arguing that the agency failed to take noise and other environmental concerns into account when developing new flight paths. Connecticut filed a similar lawsuit against the FAA the same day over the plan, which was adopted by the federal agency in September and could start being implemented in January. The lawsuits are being consolidated into a single case. The FAA would be forced to wait until the lawsuits are resolved before rerouting planes under an appropriations amendment that the aforementioned senator could propose later this year.

Source: http://www.stamfordadvocate.com/norwalkadvocate/news/ci_9760533

15. *July 2, Los Angeles Times* – (Georgia) **Atlanta airport gun ban is challenged.** On Tuesday, a Georgia legislator, who is sponsoring a new law that went into effect Tuesday allowing licensed Georgia gun owners to carry their firearms in public places, announced that he would walk into the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport carrying a handgun. In his opinion, public places include the main lobby, ticketing areas, and restaurants of Georgia airports. Hartsfield-Jackson’s general manager, however, disagreed declaring the airport a “gun-free zone” and insisting that anyone found in possession of a handgun could be arrested and charged with a misdemeanor. As of Tuesday, concealed firearms can be brought onto public transportation and into state parks, historic sites and restaurants that earn at least half their revenue from food sales. They are not allowed at athletic events, churches, political rallies, or bars. Atlanta officials, including the mayor, police chief, and general manager of the airport, have voiced strong opposition to the new law.
Source: http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-na-guns2-2008jul02_0,6818195.story

16. *July 1, Associated Press* – (California) **4 cars of freight train derail in LA County.** Crews continue to clean up a tanker spill after four cars of a freight train derailed in Irwindale. No one was hurt in the accident, which Los Angeles County’s Fire dispatch supervisor says occurred at about 3:50 a.m. Tuesday. A hazmat team responded because of the leak, but the substance turned out to be nontoxic. The incident occurred on tracks belonging to Union Pacific near the intersection of Arrowhead Highway and Azusa Canyon Road. No streets were closed because of the derailment, however, and no one was evacuated. Irwindale is 20 miles northeast of downtown Los Angeles.
Source: <http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/apwire/1c6f418eb9e2aff36b67ecd502a9612a.htm>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report

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Agriculture and Food Sector

17. *July 2, Detroit Free Press* – (National) **Company recalls 265 tons of beef in E. coli case.** Nebraska Beef Ltd. is recalling more than 265 tons of meat used in ground beef suspected of being contaminated with E. coli that has caused at least 40 confirmed illnesses in Michigan and Ohio. The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), labeled the Nebraska Beef and Kroger recall as Class I, which means the product involved carries a high health risk. On Friday, the FSIS issued an enforcement notice to the Omaha-based beef company for alleged violations of proper food safety practices. An agency spokeswoman said the company has until today to respond. “They need to respond to the notice with a comprehensive corrective action

plan,” she said. “If they fail to do so, FSIS withholds the right to suspend the assignment of inspectors, which effectively stops operations.” Nebraska Beef sells boxed meat cuts that are normally turned into ground beef, according to its legal counsel. He said the company had “no statement at this point” about how E. coli 0157:H7 may have gotten into its product.

Source:

<http://www.freep.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080702/NEWS05/807020336/1007>

18. *July 2, Newsday* – (National) **3 Nassau County residents fall ill with salmonella.**

Three Nassau County, New York, residents fell ill in late May from a salmonella infection, the county reported yesterday, even as federal health investigators expanded their search to see if products other than tomatoes may be responsible for the nationwide outbreak that has caused 869 confirmed cases since mid-April. The Nassau County Health Department reported that two people reported eating raw tomatoes both in New York City and locally. The third, reported eating them during a visit to California. All have recovered. Two cases have been confirmed in Suffolk County, and 26 statewide. While tomatoes are still considered a probable culprit, federal health authorities said yesterday other produce commonly eaten along with them will now be investigated. They said the new effort will investigate the entire chain, from farms to consumers, looking for common sources of contamination and points where multiple products might have shared a distribution site. Investigators have reportedly begun looking into produce such as jalapeño peppers and cilantro, which commonly appear with tomatoes in salsa and guacamole served in the Southwestern-style restaurants where clusters of illness among patrons have been reported. Criticism is mounting at the pace of the investigation, which has not found any contaminated vegetables, much less the source of contamination. Tomato growers and distributors face hundreds of millions of dollars in losses.

Source: http://www.newsday.com/news/printedition/longisland/ny-litoma025749073jul02_0,2834319.story

19. *July 1, Triangle Business Journal* – (National) **Feds grant \$5M to RTI to study protection of food supply.**

RTI International has been awarded a five-year contract that could be worth more than \$5 million to examine how to better protect the food supply. The award from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) comes after a number of public food scares, from the ongoing salmonella outbreak to fears over tainted lettuce, green onions, and spinach. The FDA has come under fire for its handling of some of those situations – including the ongoing salmonella outbreak in tomatoes, in which the FDA is yet to pinpoint the specific source of the contamination. Under terms of its deal with the FDA, RTI will develop models for ranking food-related threats to public health. It also will help prioritize research and determine the best ways to minimize the health risks of eating fresh produce and shellfish, a statement says. “The models that RTI develops will provide FDA with a new set of tools with which to conduct these evaluations,” RTI’s lead modeler for the project said in a statement.

Source: <http://www.bizjournals.com/triangle/stories/2008/06/30/daily16.html>

20. *July 1, Hillsboro Argus* – (Oregon) **Conservation, Innovation Grants will fund three**

projects in Oregon. On 25 June, the secretary of agriculture announced \$14-million in Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) to fund 45 projects nationwide, including three in Oregon, to develop and refine technologies that will help farmers conserve and sustain natural resources on their land. CIG targets innovative, on-the-ground conservation, including pilot projects and field demonstrations. CIG projects address traditional natural resource issues such as water quantity, water quality improvement, livestock nutrient management, grazing lands and forest health, and soil resource management. The projects also address emerging natural resource issues, including agricultural air emissions, energy conservation, and market-based approaches to conservation. Grants go to state and local governments, tribes, non-governmental organizations, and individuals. Grantees provide matching funds to CIG bringing the total value of the approved projects to more than \$28.4 million.

Source:

<http://www.oregonlive.com/news/argus/index.ssf?/base/news/1214932920145480.xml&coll=6>

21. *July 1, Reuters* – (International) **New safety standards set for baby formula and nuts.**

Diplomats in Geneva have agreed new limits for bacteria in baby formula and natural toxins in nuts, setting safety standards to apply for internationally shipped food, the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Tuesday. At a meeting of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, a joint body of the WHO and the Food and Agriculture Organization, officials also set benchmarks for producing gluten-free foods. A scientist in the WHO's food safety division said the adoption of the "landmark" code of hygienic practices for powdered formula could reduce contamination from two bacteria that can cause severe illness and death in babies. People with wheat allergies would also be protected by the standards for gluten-free food that countries pledged to work into their national legislation, and to meet in food exports under World Trade Organization rules. The new benchmark dictates that food labeled gluten-free may not contain wheat, rye, barley or oats, and its gluten level may not exceed 20 milligrams per kilogram. The 124 countries participating in this week's Codex meeting also agreed maximum levels for aflatoxins in almonds, hazelnuts, and pistachios.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/newsOne/idUSL0166682420080701?sp=true>

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Water Sector

22. *July 2, Science Daily* – (National) **Pesticides persist in ground water.** Numerous studies over the past four decades have established that pesticides, which are typically applied at the land surface, can move downward through the unsaturated zone to reach the water table at detectable concentrations. The downward movement of pesticide degradation products, formed in situ, can also contribute to the contamination of ground water. Once in ground water, pesticides and their degradation products can persist for years, depending upon the chemical structure of the compounds and the environmental conditions. Scientists at the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) investigated the occurrence of selected pesticides and their degradation products in ground water during a study funded by the USGS National Water-Quality Assessment. The study revealed that the

pesticides and degradation products detected most frequently in shallow ground-water samples from all four areas were predominantly from two classes of herbicides – triazines and chloroacetanilides. None of the insecticides or fungicides examined were detected in ground water samples. In most samples, the concentrations of the pesticide degradation products greatly exceeded those of their parent compounds.

Source: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2008/07/080701110412.htm>

23. *July 1, Reuters* – (International) **Children ill after water poisoned in China school.**

More than 60 children fell ill after drinking water that may have been deliberately poisoned at a primary school in southern China, state media reported on Tuesday. The water in the school's storage tank smelled of pesticide and police found an empty bottle that they suspected of containing the poison, Xinhua said. While the investigation is continuing, local education officials have already accused the school of mismanagement, it added. Scandals involving substandard food or medicines are reported regularly by Chinese media, and schools have been involved before.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/latestCrisis/idUSPEK326469>

24. *July 1, Burlington Free Press* – (Vermont) **State turns 'blind eye' to farm water pollution.**

An environmental group and the administration of Vermont's governor traded harsh words Monday over whether Vermont is taking the steps needed to prevent water pollution by the state's largest farms. The Conservation Law Foundation (CLF) said its review of state files found that Vermont regulators "turn a blind eye to the threat of illegal pollution" on large- and medium-sized dairy farms. The Agriculture and Natural Resources secretaries vehemently denied that conclusion. They repeatedly characterized Vermont as "aggressively" pursuing water quality violations. Some agricultural pollution is unregulated, but all farms are required to abide by a minimum list of anti-pollution practices. State rules impose additional requirements on medium and large farms. A 17-page report by CLF cites Agriculture Agency inspection reports documenting "problem areas" on 11 of the state's 18 large farms, defined as operations with more than 700 mature dairy cows or 30,000 to 125,000 chickens.

Source:

<http://www.burlingtonfreepress.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080701/NEWS01/807010314/1007/NEWS02>

25. *June 30, Aspen Times* – (Colorado) **Gas companies cited for waste discharge northwest of Parachute.**

The Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission is investigating four natural gas companies for a waste discharge northwest of Parachute that allegedly contaminated a spring that feeds one cabin's drinking water, state records show. The alleged contamination sent an area guide and outfitter to the hospital with throat problems after he drank water from his cabin's faucet, according to a state Notice of Alleged Violation filed against each company. The citations against the companies said that water samples from a spring, faucet, and pond at the cabin – taken a day after he filed his complaint – showed traces of benzene that exceeded the state's Water Quality Control Commission water standards. Benzene is a known carcinogen. Samples were also collected at three other cabins and from fluids at a pit associated with a nearby well. The results of those samples were not detailed in the violation notice. Nonsuch

Natural Gas, Marathon Oil Co., Williams Production RMT, and Petroleum Development Corp. have all been issued a violation notice in connection with the release. The commission, in its complaints against the four companies, also cited them for allegedly not telling the state about the discharge, state records show. A spokeswoman for Williams said the source of the contamination has not yet been identified, but that the company is working very cooperatively with the commission and the area guide to put remedial fixes in place “immediately.” She said the company put a large tank of water on the area guide’s property so he and his family can have access to fresh water.

Source: <http://www.aspentimes.com/article/20080630/NEWS/244507110>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

26. *July 2, Environmental News Service* – (National) **Penn study pinpoints new DNA weapon against bird flu.** A new way to vaccinate against avian influenza that tricks the immune system into mounting a broad response against multiple strains of the disease, including strains to which the immune system was never exposed, has been devised by researchers at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. In the experiments, vaccinated macaques, mice, and ferrets were protected from both disease and death when exposed to avian flu. If proven in humans, this research could lead the way to effectively prepare against an outbreak of pandemic avian flu. The new vaccination method delivers the vaccine via synthetic DNA. Traditional vaccines expose a formulation of a specific strain of flu to the body so it can create immune responses against that specific strain. But a DNA vaccine becomes part of the cell, giving it the blueprint it needs to build antigens that can induce responses targeting diverse strains of pandemic flu. Because these synthetic DNA vaccines are effective against multiple cross strains, vaccines could be created and stockpiled, prior to a pandemic, and thus be delivered quickly in the event of an outbreak, say the researchers.” This is the first study to show that a single DNA vaccine can induce protection against strains of pandemic flu in many animal models, including primates,” says a professor of pathology and laboratory medicine at the university. “With this type of vaccine, we can generate a single construct of a pandemic flu vaccine that will give much broader protection,” he said.

Source: <http://www.ens-newswire.com/ens/jul2008/2008-07-02-01.asp>

27. *July 2, Las Vegas Journal Review* – (Nevada) **Measles case prompts public health warning.** Southern Nevada public health officials are urging Las Vegas Valley residents who have never had a measles vaccine to get one. The warning comes after a man visiting from Italy on June 20 and 21 later was diagnosed with the virus. It is unknown how many people were exposed to the man, health officials said Tuesday. Although the risk of measles spreading to individuals previously vaccinated for measles or who once were diagnosed with it is low, the Southern Nevada Health District is concerned about those who have not been vaccinated. The health district is alerting the community of the possibility of transmission so that anyone who develops symptoms will seek medical attention.

Source: <http://www.lvrj.com/news/22803879.html>

28. *July 2, Canadian Press* – (International) **Dengue virus spreading its wings.** While Canada's cold winters deter dengue fever, which is a warm climate disease, from getting a foothold in the country, thousands of Canadians who travel to the wide swaths of the world where the virus does spread are at risk of getting infected with a virus that can trigger symptoms that range from flu-like fatigue and aching joints to a hemorrhagic fever that can kill. A newly published study looking at trends in dengue infections in travelers notes the past 20 years have seen a marked expansion of dengue, from Southeast Asia to the islands of the South Pacific, the Caribbean and the Americas. There have even been domestically acquired infections in some of the southernmost U.S. states. Dengue has become a more common diagnosis than malaria for ill travelers returning from tropical regions except Africa, notes the study, published in the July issue of *Emerging Infectious Diseases*. An analysis of cases reported to the Geosentinel Surveillance Network, an international collaboration of specialized travel and tropical medicine clinics shows that from October 1997 through February 2006, 522 of nearly 25,000 ill travelers seen at network clinics were diagnosed with dengue or dengue hemorrhagic fever. In Canada, 40 to 50 lab confirmed cases of dengue fever are reported each year, in travelers who have visited parts of the world where the type of mosquito that spreads the dengue virus are found. The disease isn't contagious, though mosquitoes become infected by drawing blood from an infected person and then pass the virus along.

Source:

<http://lfpres.ca/newsstand/Today/2008/07/02/6040166-sun.html>

29. *July 1, Oakland Tribune* – (California) **Children's hospital to cut 84 positions.** Officials at Children's Hospital and Research Center Oakland announced Tuesday the facility will eliminate 84 jobs because of the growing financial gap between medical costs and public health insurance. The job cuts mainly will come from the hospital's outpatient operations in Oakland. Hospital officials said the cuts are necessary because of the widening money gap of providing services and reimbursement it receives through the state's Medi-Cal program. In a news release, the hospital said managers, physicians, nurses, clinical workers, and office staff will be among those affected by the cuts. The elimination of the 84 full-time equivalent jobs is expected to result in an annual savings of \$10 million. "We are being hit hard by the slumping economy and the state budget crunch," said the hospital's chief executive. "It's a challenging time for pediatric health care providers." "Medi-Cal underpayment is a long-standing issue, and given the current economic circumstances, our resources are being strained," he said.

Source: http://www.insidebayarea.com/argus/localnews/ci_9758629

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Government Facilities Sector

30. *July 1, Sand Mountain Reporter* – (Alabama) **Spill sickens students.** The Boaz Fire Department responded to a possible hazardous chemical spill in the basement of Snead State Community College's cafeteria Monday at about 11 a.m. Six student workers and two regular maintenance employees of the college were affected. Boaz's fire chief said

the workers were attempting to clean the basement area when they encountered a 20-gallon container leaking a white powder from its rusted-out bottom. The powder is said to have reacted, in a manner that caused concern, when it came in contact with water. Not knowing the nature of the material involved, the Boaz Fire Department initiated a hazardous chemical response. The exact nature of the powder could not be determined until agents of the Alabama Department of Environmental Management arrived.

Source: <http://www.sandmountainreporter.com/story.lasso?ewcd=b734150fef349c3>

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Emergency Services Sector

31. *July 1, WBKO 13 Bowling Green* – (Ohio) **EMS worker arrested for stealing patient's credit cards.** A Cleveland EMS worker appeared in court on June 30, charged with stealing credit cards while at work transporting an unconscious patient to the hospital. Cleveland investigators provided surveillance video from a store and say it shows the worker using the patient's credit cards. The suspect, who has worked for Cleveland EMS for the past seven years, is accused of racking up more than \$1,000 in charges.

Source: <http://www.wbko.com/news/headlines/22784999.html>

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Information Technology

32. *July 2, IDG News Service* – (National) **Trojan lurks, waiting to steal admin passwords.** Writers of a password-stealing Trojan horse program have managed to infect hundreds of thousands of computers – including more than 14,000 within one unnamed global hotel chain – by waiting for system administrators to log onto infected PCs and then using a Microsoft administration tool to spread their malicious software throughout the network. The criminals behind the Coreflood Trojan are using the software to steal banking and brokerage account usernames and passwords. They have amassed a 50G-byte database of this information from the machines they have infected, according to the director of malware research with security vendor SecureWorks. Since Microsoft shipped its Windows XP Service Pack 2 software with its locked-down security features, hackers have had a hard time finding ways to spread malicious software throughout corporate networks. Widespread worm or virus outbreaks soon dropped off after the software's August 2004 release. But the Coreflood hackers have been successful, thanks in part to a Microsoft program called PsExec, which was written to help system administrators run legitimate software on computers across their networks. Over the past 16 months, Coreflood's authors have infected more than 378,000 computers. SecureWorks has counted thousands of infections in university networks and has found financial companies, hospitals, law firms, and even a U.S. state police agency that have had hundreds of infections.

Source: <http://www.itworld.com/news/53410/trojan-lurks-waiting-steal-admin-passwords>

33. *July 2, Computerworld* – (International) **SQL attacks lobs onto ATP site.** Visitors to the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) web site have potentially been infected with spyware after apparent lax security allowed a malicious script to be injected across its pages. The SQL injection attack acts as a conduit for spyware and trojans to be downloaded to victims' machines. While the manner of attack is nothing new, Microsoft's Technet warned it has detected an increase in the type of attack on Web sites using Microsoft ASP and ASP.NET. It attributes the vulnerability to poor Web application security practices, rather than product flaws. "These SQL injection attacks do not exploit a specific software vulnerability, but instead target Web sites that do not follow secure coding practices for accessing and manipulating data stored in a relational database," the site reads. "When a SQL injection attack succeeds, an attacker can compromise data stored in these databases and possibly execute remote code. Clients browsing to a compromised server could be forwarded unknowingly to malicious sites that may install malware on the client machine."
Source: <http://www.computerworld.com.au/index.php/id:548262954;fp:2;fpid:1>
34. *July 1, Ars Technica* – (International) **x64 Kernel patch causes random restarts, fix on the way.** Microsoft has disclosed that update 932596, a patch released for the Kernel Patch Protection feature that is included with x64 versions of Windows Server 2003, Windows Vista, and Windows Server 2008, seems to be causing random restarts on certain machines. A Stop error is then generated (error code 0x0000001E, 0x000000D1, or another Stop error code). Windows x86 versions are not affected since they do not include the Kernel Patch Protection feature (also known as PatchGuard), a technology that is meant to prevent third-party interventions into the core of the operating system. According to KB article 950772, Microsoft has a hotfix ready but has not yet released it.
Source: <http://arstechnica.com/journals/microsoft.ars/2008/07/01/x64-kernel-patch-causes-random-restarts-fix-on-the-way>
35. *July 1, IDG News Service* – (International) **Study: Unpatched Web browsers prevalent on the internet.** Only 59.1 percent of people use up-to-date, fully patched Web browsers, putting the remainder at risk from growing threats from diligent hackers, according to a new study published by researchers in Switzerland. The study, conducted by researchers at The Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Google and IBM Internet Security Services and published Tuesday, is one of the most comprehensive analyses of what versions of Web browsers people are using on the Internet. Web browsers are often a weak link in the security chain, as software vulnerabilities can make it easy for hackers to gain control of a PC. When that happens, hackers can perform malicious acts such as stealing personal data or turning PCs into spam-spewing drones. What the researchers found is that although software vendors provide patches for security problems, it can take days, weeks, or months before people update their applications. In the meantime, those users are at risk.
Source:
http://www.pcworld.com/businesscenter/article/147776/study_unpatched_web_browsers_prevalent_on_the_internet.html

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: <http://www.us-cert.gov>.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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Communications Sector

36. *July 1, Memphis Business Journal* – (Tennessee) **AT&T to invest \$400M in Tenn. infrastructure.** AT&T Inc. will invest \$400 million in the implementation of new video services in Tennessee, the company announced Tuesday. The telecom giant will offer video services that necessitate fiber network upgrades, further broadband deployment, and Internet-based technologies, the company said. AT&T's planned infrastructure will for the first time bring its U-verse services, video carried over internet protocol, to the state. The move is a result of a new state law AT&T had lobbied for. AT&T-backed House Bill 1421, signed into law in May, was met with resistance last year from the cable industry, and primarily Comcast Corp. In the past, local governments had jurisdiction over who is allowed to provide information and entertainment services using their towns' right-of-ways. The new law, which creates a single statewide franchise agreement instead of negotiating with each municipality separately, opened the door for AT&T to offer its television services in Tennessee.

Source: <http://www.bizjournals.com/memphis/stories/2008/06/30/daily20.html>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

37. *July 2, KMSP 9 Minneapolis-St. Paul*– (Minnesota) **Antiwar protesters chained together outside bullet making facility in Minnesota.** Antiwar protesters blocked streets and snarled traffic outside a bullet making facility in Anoka, Minnesota Wednesday morning. Police responded to the Federated Cartridge bullet making facility to "remove protesters who have affixed themselves to the area." Activists with Project to Stop the War Industry (PSWI) are protesting aerospace and defense technology company ATK, saying they benefit from the escalation of violence overseas. "We are doing what we can to disable local branches of the war industry in order to challenge the wars of aggression that are being fought in our name," PSWI said, in a news release. ATK creates munitions and rocket motors for the military. Last year, ATK registered \$4.2 billion in total sales, with at least 52 percent of sales to the U.S. military.

Source:

<http://www.myfoxtwincities.com/myfox/pages/Home/Detail?contentId=6896112&version=5&locale=EN-US&layoutCode=TSTY&pageId=1.1.1>

38. *July 1, Associated Press* – (Texas) **Small explosion prompts office building**

evacuation. Authorities are checking into what might have caused a small explosion in a downtown Fort Worth office building that prompted a brief evacuation today. The explosion happened on the sixth floor of the XTO Energy, W.T. Waggoner building shortly before midday. The building was evacuated as a precaution, but occupants were allowed to return to their offices a half-hour later. Police blocked off the streets bounding the building while fire crews contained the situation. No smoke or flames were reported.

Source: <http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/ap/tx/5865816.html>

39. *June 30, Naples Daily News* – (Florida) **Wal-Mart evacuated after shoppers, employees complain of respiratory problems.** An East Naples Wal-Mart was evacuated for more than three hours Monday afternoon after more than a dozen employees and customers began coughing and complaining of respiratory problems. But after hours of investigation, neither a Collier County hazardous materials team nor the Florida Department of Health could find the cause. The Wal-Mart was evacuated after it was determined that something in the air in the front of the store was causing people to cough, an East Naples fire spokesman said. Collier County Emergency Medical Services treated 13 people at the scene, but no one was transported to the hospital.

Source: <http://www.naplesnews.com/news/2008/jun/30/wal-mart-evacuated-east-naples---13-treated-respi/>

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National Monuments & Icons Sector

Nothing to report

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Dams Sector

40. *July 1, Associated Press* – (Iowa) **Corps looks to shore up Oakville levee soon.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers hopes to start work soon on repairing a levee breach near Oakville, Iowa, where the Iowa River swamped the town last month. Water continues to flow through the levee after the June 14 break. Since the levee is on the Iowa River, officials will have to use rock and dirt, preferably from a local quarry. However, many roads, including main highways, in and around Oakville were severely damaged by the flood and remain closed. Officials hope to get the roads passable by the end of the week.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-ia-oakvillelevee.0,4581955.story>

41. *July 1, Terre Haute Tribune-Star* – (Indiana) **Conservancy District officials say levees damaged but unbroken.** In Indiana, heavy rains damaged but did not break levees under the care of the Honey Creek-Vigo Conservancy District during recent flooding, conservancy officials said Tuesday. Conservancy officials, like many people, had heard rumors of levees being cut or failing, but “to our knowledge, there was no place that the levee” was broken during the flooding, said the chairman of the Conservancy District, which met Tuesday in the U.S. Department of Agriculture offices west of Honey Creek

Mall. Although levees never collapsed, flood water did flow over the top of levees in different places, officials said. Emergency repair work also was necessary to keep the Honey Creek levee from failing.

Source: http://www.tribstar.com/news/local_story_183224311.html?keyword=topstory

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